

Death Domain Containing Receptor 5

Abstract

The present invention relates to novel Death Domain Containing Receptor-5 (DR5) proteins which are members of the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) receptor family, and have now been shown to bind TRAIL. In particular, isolated nucleic acid molecules are provided encoding the human DR5 proteins. DR5 polypeptides are also provided as are vectors, host cells and recombinant methods for producing the same. The invention further relates to screening methods for identifying antagonists and antagonists of DR5 activity. The invention also relates to the treatment of diseases associated with reduced or increased levels of apoptosis using antibodies specific for DR5, which may be agonists and/or antagonists of DR5 activity.